from the patients. The appropriate authority to grant sanction for prosecution is the Governing Body of the institute. The proposal for grant of sanction for prosecution will be placed before the next meeting of the Governing Body for consideration.

Regional Cancer Centres

1711. SHRI CHO S. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the policy guideline of the Government to set up Regional Cancer Centres in the country;

(b) whether private hospitals and hospitals run by charitable trusts will be considered for the RCC;

(c) the financial assistance which is presently being given to these RCCs;

(d) the number of such cases for setting up RCCs pending with the Government for approval;

(e) when these applications will be cleared; and

(f) how many cancer patients are presently being treated every year in the existing regional cancer centres across the country every year?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI. PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) As per the present policy new RCCs are to be recognised in the States where they are not recognized and additional RCCs in populous States. For this purpose only the Government Medical College Hospitals or Government Hospitals providing radiotherapy treatment and fulfilling requisite criteria would be considered.

(c) In the revised schemes of NCCP, there is a provision to extend a one time financial assistance of upto Rs. 3.00 crore to the existing RCCs for upgrading their infrastructure based on an action plan to be submitted by them.

(d) and (e) Applications for recognition of RCCs have been received from the State Government of J&K, Goa, UP, Jharkhand and Meghalaya. The recognition is subject to technical evaluation.

(f) This information is not Centrally available.